

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /066 W
-----282252Z 027333 /73

R 281043Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0427

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1803

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SW
SUBJECT: FAREWELL CALLS

1. I HAVE BEEN MAKING MY FAREWELL ROUNDS AND HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO HEAR ALL OF MY SWEDISH INTERLOCUTERS BOTH IN AND OUT OF OFFICIAL CIRCLES SPEAKING SO WARMLY OF THE STATE OF AMERICAN-SWEDISH RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH NO IMPORTANT NEWS EMERGED FROM MY FAREWELL CONVERSATIONS, I FEEL THAT A FEW NOTES ARE IN ORDER ON THEM, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH THE KING AND THE PRIME MINISTER. (I HAVE REPORTED SEPARATELY THAT I PAID MY FAREWELL CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER APRIL 26, PRIOR TO THE LUNCHEON SHE GAVE IN MY HONOR.)

2. MY MEETING WITH THE KING (APRIL 18) WAS WARM AND PLEASANT, AS ALL OF MY MEETINGS WITH HIM HAVE BEEN. HE REMEMBERS WITH PLEASURE HIS RECENT TRIPS TO THE US, AND HOPES VERY MUCH TO BE ABLE TO COME AGAIN IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER IN CONNECTION WITH SWEDEN'S AMERICA CUP CHALLENGE. THE KING SPOKE CORDIALLY ABOUT THE HAPPY STATE OF US-SWEDISH RELATIONS.

3. I MET WITH PRIME MINISTER FALLDIN APRIL 19 AND FOUND HIM LOOKING MORE TIRED THAN DURING MY INITIAL CALL ON HIM LAST DECEMBER; BUT HE WAS STILL RELAXED AND SEEMED UNHURRIED DURING MY VISIT. (AS BEFORE, ALTHOUGH HE SAID SOME
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OCCASIONAL WORDS IN ENGLISH, FALLDIN HAD HIS AIDE HANS LINTON TRANSLATE FROM SWEDISH, BUT UNDERSTOOD MY ENGLISH WITHOUT TRANSLATION.) ONCE AGAIN THE COMMENTS ABOUT US-SWEDISH RELATIONS WERE WHOLLY POSITIVE, FROM BOTH SIDES.

4. REGARDING HIGH-LEVEL VISITS, FALLDIN SAID HE HAD MET SEVERAL TIMES WITH SUPREME COMMANDER SYNNERGREN ABOUT HIS

VISIT TO THE US, WHICH THE GOS CONSIDERED OF IMPORTANCE. FALLDIN NOTED THAT EVEN DURING THE DIFFICULT PERIOD IN US-SWEDISH RELATIONS DURING THE VIETNAM WAR, EXCELLENT MILITARY COOPERATION HAD CONTINUED; AND THIS SHOULD REMAIN SO. (IN THE ENSUING DISCUSSION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF US MILITARY SUPPLY SUPPORT FOR SWEDEN, MENTION WAS MADE OF THE SIDEWINDER MISSILE, I SAID THAT IF US MILITARY AUTHORITIES WERE FULLY ASSURED OF THE PHYSICAL SECURITY TO BE PROVIDED SUCH MISSILES AS WERE ACQUIRED, I HOPED THAT A REVIEW OF THE DECISION ON THE 9H/9L WOULD TAKE PLACE, ALTHOUGH OF COURSE I WAS NO EXPERT IN THESE MATTERS AND COULD NOT PREDICT THE FINAL DECISION. THIS MENTION OF THE SIDEWINDER WAS BRIEF, AND THE BULK OF OUR CHAT IN THIS REGARD WAS ON THE CONTINUED IMPORTANCE OF US-SWEDISH MILITARY COOPERATION.) FALLDIN ALSO MENTIONED THE FORTHCOMING VISITS TO THE US OF ECONOMIC MINISTER BOHMAN AND FOREIGN MINISTER SODER, AND HIS HOPE THAT OTHER VISITS AT A HIGH LEVEL WOULD BE TAKING PLACE.

5. IN THIS CONNECTION I ASKED IN A HIGHLY HYPOTHETICAL VEIN IF THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A US VISIT HIMSELF AT SOME STAGE. FALLDIN SAID HE FELT OBLIGATED TO VISIT THE ADJACENT COUNTRIES FIRST, BUT WHEN THIS WAS DONE HE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN A POSSIBLE VISIT TO THE US. THE CONTEXT OF THIS CHAT PUT ANY POSSIBILITY OF A VISIT INTO THE FUTURE (CERTAINLY NOT FOR EXAMPLE DURING 1977), BUT HE DID SEEM DEFINITELY INTERESTED.

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6. IN ECONOMIC MATTERS, FALLDIN EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES ON ENERGY. (WHEN I NOTED THAT A VISITING US SCIENTIST HAD JUST TOLD ME THAT WORKABLE LARGE-SCALE SOLAR ENERGY COULD BE HAD IN 15 TO 20 YEARS IF WE WENT ALL-OUT AS WE DID IN THE MAHATTAN PROJECT, FALLDIN SAID IN HIS OPINION IT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN 20 YEARS, AND HE HAD HIS STAFF LOOKING HARD AT THIS MATTER.) FALLDIN SAID AS REGARDS ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, HIS STAFF WATCHED THE US STOCK MARKET CLOSELY, AND DESPITE ENCOURAGING OFFICIAL STATEMENTS SAW NO CONCRETE INDICATIONS OF AN EARLY UPSWING. I SAID THAT PERHAPS IT WAS TAKING TIME TO BUILD CONFIDENCE, BUT OUR OFFICIALS FELT WITH SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE ECONOMY WOULD BE STRENGTHENING CONSIDERABLY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. FALLDIN WISHED US LUCK, AND WE CONCURRED IN HOPING THAT THE RECENT SWEDISH DEVALUATION WOULD GIVE A BOOST TO THE SWEDISH ECONOMY.

SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS
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Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH01803
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770149-0288
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977047/aaaaafuq.tel
Line Count: 116
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2844194
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAREWELL CALLS
TAGS: PFOR, APER, SW, US, (SMITH, DAVID S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/82c02fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009